## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-11 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 SAM-01

AID-05 /054 W

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R 111141Z FEB 76 FM AMEMBASSY LISBON TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5980 INFO DEA HQS WASHDC

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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DEPT FOR CCINC
DEA HQS FOR EOIE/GRENE
MADRID FOR DEA
PARIS FOR DEA AND CUSTOMS

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SNAR, PO

SUBJ: NARCOTICS ASSISTANCE FOR PORTUGAL

REF: (A) MADRID 0485 (NOTAL), (B) STATE 31122, (C) LISBON 0910

- 1. EMBASSY NARCOTICS COORDINATOR AND MADRID DEA SAIC TOFT, CURRENTLY IN LISBON ASSISTING PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES, JOINTLY PREPARED FOLLOWING.
- 2. ASSESSMENT OF PORTUGUESE DRUG PROBLEM IS HAMPERED BY COMPLETE LACK OF STATISTICS. HOWEVER, IT IS KNOWN THAT NARCOTIC AVAILABILITY AND USE HAVE GROWN SHARPLY SINCE APRIL 1974 REVOLUTION. MARIJUANA, HASHISH, LSD, ETC., ARE OPENLY AVAILABLE IN METROPOLITAN AREAS, EVEN IN HIGH SCHOOLS. SEVERAL PLACES FOR SMOKING OPIUM (PROBABLY SUPPLIED FROM MACAU) HAVE ALLEGEDLY OPENED RECENTLY IN LISBON. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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- 3. SOLDIERS RETURNING FROM FORMER COLONIES ADD TO MARIJUANA PROBLEM. A NUMBER OF ANGOLAN REFUGEES ALSO BROUGHT BACK SUPPLIES OF ANGOLAN MARIJUANA (LIAMBA), OFTEN AS THEIR SOLE LIQUID ASSET. ACCORDING TO UNCONFIRMED REPORTS, A SIZEABLE TRAFFIC HAS DEVELOPED BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND OTHER PARTS OF EUROPE.
- 4. PORTUGAL CONTINUES TO SERVE AS A TRANSIT POINT FOR HEROIN, COCAINE, AND HASHISH DESTINED FOR U.S., ALTHOUGH RECENT TRAFFIC IS AFFECTED BY AVAILABILITY OF FRENCH HEROIN. POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE HEROIN TRAFFIC RESURGENCE ARGUES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF EFFECTIVE PORTUGUESE DRUG PROGRAM.
- 5. WITHOUT U.S. ASSISTANCE RECOMMENDED REFTELS A AND C, LOCAL AUTHORITIES UNLIKELY TO PREVENT PORTUGAL FROM BECOMING INCREASING-LY IMPORTANT POINT IN INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC. PORTUGUESE NARCOTICS OFFICIALS ARE ALMOST COMPLETELY LACKING IN BASIC EXPERTISE.

  THIS DEFICIENCY IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IN AREAS NEW TO PORTUGAL -E.G., COMPLIANCE AND NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE. PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS QUITE LITERALLY DO NOT KNOW WHERE TO START TO FORM AN
  ORGANIZATION AND WRITE NEW COMPLIANCE-TYPE LAWS FOR DANGEROUS
  DRUGS. TIME CONSTRAINT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT; IF PROPOSALS
  ARE NOT MADE TO GOVERNMENT IN TIME TO BE APPROVED BEFORE ELECTIONS, DRUG PROBLEM MAY BE SIDETRACKED FOR CONSIDERABLE TIME
  WHILE NEW GOVERNMENT GETS ORGANIZED.
- 6. GIVEN THE ABOVE, WE STRONGLY URGE APPROVAL OF ORIENTATION TRAVEL OUTLINED PARA 5A REFTEL A FOR EARLY MARCH AT THE LATEST. RECOMMENDED ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS, WE ARE CERTAIN, WILL BE HIGHLY COST-EFFECTIVE IN FURTHERING U.S. INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL. CARLUCCI

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, PERSONNEL TRAINING, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), CUSTOMS OFFICIALS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 11 FEB 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LISBON00929

Document Number: 1976LISBON00929
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760052-0842

From: LISBON

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760260/aaaacanw.tel Line Count: 92

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 76 MADRID 485, 76 LISBON 910 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: morefirh

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 20 APR 2004

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>

**Review Markings:** 

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: NARCOTICS ASSISTANCE FOR PORTUGAL

TAGS: SNAR, US, PO To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006